### THE EVENING STAR.

WASHINGTON. WONDAY ..... February 26, 1900.

ROSBY S. NOYES ..... Editor.

THE EVENING STAR has a regular and permanent Family Circulation much more than the combined cir-culation of the other Washington dallies. As a News and Advertising Medium it has no competitor.

I/In order to avoid delays, on account of personal absence, letters to THE STAR should not be addressed to any individual connected with the office, but simply to THE STAR, or to the Editorial or Business Departments, according to tenor or purpose.

Keeping Faith. The republican party obtained power un-der Mr. McKinley's leadership upon the strength of two promises: (1) tirat it would revise the tariff on protection lines, and (2) that it would maintain the gold standard. The first promise was redeemed by the enactment of the Dingley tariff law. The second promise has been redeemed by the policy of the Treasury Department and by the currency bill which has just been greed upon in conference between the two houses of Congress. The redemption of promise gave a great impetus to mistness, and the great mills have been humming ever since. The redemption of the other promise has filled financial cirwith a sense of security, and money enterprises of enormous scope and inestisuble benefit to the country have resulted. Surely nobody can justly deny that the triumph of sound money and protection achieved in 1896 has been followed by ben efits in which all sections and all industries have generously shared. The people have been fiving on Easy street for full three

Promises redeemed give value to prom ices which follow. In seeking indorsemen the polls this year the republican party will review the record. It will claim credi for the faith kept and the results, and Our the record as sufficient reason why may be trusted to solve the new problem ented to the general welfare. Having accurately chosen the wise and profit with respect to the old issues why should it not be as successful with th

That the new issues are difficult nobody statt indeed that both parties show divis-Senator Morgan is as little in tone Bryan on the general questie expansion as Senator Hour is with Mr Still, when the presidential cor test begins, these divisions will in the mai Mr. Morgan will support and Mr. Hoar will support Mr. Mc. to have been settled by legislatic issues still appeal to the people nel selli regulate the political affiliations of the great majority. Democrats like Mr. the sound money triumphs at the poils and Hoar think that the sound money legisla ng the party that enacted it in power It is a good thing to keep faith-as good party as for an individual. Henc seems strange that anybody should think that the republican party has weakened liself for the approaching campaign by having lived up to the promises it made

### Cuba's Independence Day.

The observance by the Cubans of their independence day was in liself most assur ing as to the conditions on the island. They entered into the spirit of the occasion with gram without a hitch of any kind. The Cu ban flag, the stars and stripes, and even the Spanish flag, were all in evidence, and Cuans, Americans and Spaniards all participated in the festivities with thorough good humor. Fraternity seemed to be the order

ensideration of common sense and pro-riety. And yet it was an achievement of note when it is considered how long the island has been the scene of un rest and armed strife. The war which end ed in the expulsion of Spain lasted, it i true, but three years, but Cuba had been i a state of agitation for independence-and for fully a third of the time the scene of fliet-for thirty years. The most in all classes of the people. At every protest of the Cubans the Spanish authorities had given the screw of oppression an additional Spanish screw the spirit of the Cubans had risen higher and grown to be the more uncompromising. At last the conflict opened which was to decide Cuba's fate, and after three years of the most appalling experience for the Cubans was decided in Cuba's favor. But aighteen months after the low ering of the Spanish flag we see the people of all nationalities mingling together in peace and enthusiasm in celebration of the uccess of the aspirations of the Cubans. For those aspirations have succeeded The Cuban republic is not yet established but the people of the Island have the most positive assurances that their destinies are soon to be in their own hands. They are to decide for themselves what the future is to be. The United States will keep faith with them. And it is this fact which contributes so much to the encouraging conditions

the Americans take pleasure in assisting in whatever is calculated to draw and keep all of the people together.

The success of Saturday's celebration is of the happlest augury, and every friend of Cuba in reading the story has experienced pleasure in it.

which now prevail in Cuba. The Cuban-

are of good heart. The Spaniards in the

Mr. Bryan, of course, feels that a man who has a presidential boom on his hands could not reasonably be expected to do much personal lobbying against the finan-

If the Porto Ricans had understood that they were to be plunged into the midst of abstruse tariff logic they might not have been so joyous in welcoming the soldiers.

The Czar of Russia has not yet put his refusal to strike in Asia while England is involved in Africa into the shape of a defi-

Aguinaldo will scarcely approve of Ger eral Cronje as a military officer. He is al-

They had what the pilots call a Bryan reeze off Sandy Hook yesterday. The wind blew sixty miles an hour.

### Porto Rico.

The question of a tariff for Porto Rice came up so suddenly and developed so rapidly that the plight in which the majority party in Congress finds itself need occasion no surprise. Unquestionably the President in his recommendation on the subject voiced aimost the universal sentiment of the country at that time. The proposition seemed simple and the country's duty plain. Porto Rico was ours. We had taken her from Spain because of Spain's maladministration of the island's affairs. The island had been used by Spain, as had all her other colonies, not for the local advancement, but for Spain's selfish purposes. Although rich in resources, the island was backward. The people slept because there seemed to be no good purpose to be served

by stirring about. And whatever was done sehow inured to Spain's interests across the Atlantic.

When the Spanish flag came down and the stars and stripes went up the change was welcomed both in Porto Rico and in this country with enthusiasm. To the Porto Ricans it meant not only a new life, but a greatly enlarged field commercially and in every other way. They did not doubt, and seemed fully justified in believing, that with American sovereignty would come American opportunity. In this coun-try the change meant the strengthening of our interests in a quarter where we had long desired a foothold. Cuba, it is true, would be friendly, but Cuba was to be free. Porto Rico was ours, to have and to hold.

This was the situation, the aspect of things when the President's message to Congress was written. The treatment of he subject by him was well received, and there was reason to believe that Congress would act in accordance with his recommendation. But the ways and means com mittee of the House, by a majority vote decided, after an examination of the question, to impose a small duty on Porto Rican traffic with the United States, and the House is on the eve of voting on the proposition. The case has been strongly argued en both sides, and the result is thought to be doubtful.

The efforts of the republicans to reach a compromise, so as to avoid further con-fusion or failure absolute, have been earnest, and evidently made in full appreciation of the importance of the subject. It is a very important subject; and unless it is wisely solved the result may not only embarrass the party in the coming campaign but the country in a larger sense as well.

### The Sloux Falls Meeting.

Those populists who selected Sioux Falls as the place for holding their national convention acted wisely. Their hunting ground this year is to be the west. If there is anything in fusion it will be found there. Popalism had its origin in that quarter, and whatever is left of it is to be sought there. Reports as to the situation are conflicting. That the party which was to swallow u ooth of the old parties has lost considerable ground of late is plain enough. Some of the reasons which brought it into being have disappeared and others have lost much of their potency. Men of prominence who participated in the movement at the outset and represented it in office have been forced to confess that the millennium does not seem to lie in that direction, and litical affiliations.

In the south, where the populists were at one time strong, their power is almost wholly gone. In Texas, in Arkansas, in Georgia and particularly in Alabama, the rule of the democracy was for several years seriously threatened. But that day is past. Outside of the border states of Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia and Kentucky there is no longer an inch of debatable ground politically in the south. The dem-ocracy has recovered all the lost ground and is now almost impregnably intrenched. Its leaders are men of experience and capacity, they have the situation well in hand, the election laws framed by them are excuted by them, and the result, as Mr. Watterson frankly declared of the case in Kenucky, is not left to chance. The south, therefore, outside of the four states named. may safely be put down for Mr. Bryan. The populists in the west are recruited

ery largely from the republicans. They did not become estranged solely on ac ount of the money question. Some of them held low tariff views. Others advocated government ownership of all public utilities. So that the collapse of all the argument put forward by Mr. Bryan in support of free silver will not of itself take them out of his train. He still stands for much in which they believe, and they are now disposed to rally to his support a sec-

### The Horror of Slaughter.

As long as shoulder-straps and Victoria rosses are foundations of pride; as long s war heroes are made the chiefest heroes of mankind; as long as deeds of valorous butchers and stubborn sacrifice send a hysterical thrill of admiration through hearts of the people, there will be wars and men will seek honor by filling graves.

But from amid the scenes of slaughter

South Africa arises a spirit of hope for hose people who believe in peace on earth and good will toward men. It is but a dim and vague and distant shade but it is hope. The glory of the gallant British officers and men who have fallen has not the savage glare of yore, but through it are een the solemn shades of mourning and an incommon sense of horror seems to on cress the people.

The admiration which the world feels for he brave defense the Boers are making of their country, right or wrong, but beieving themselves right, is accompanied with a feeling of sadness and an impulse to ask, Is there no defense of liberty but by sacrifice of life? The world closes its eyes to shut out the

vision of Cronje's men crouching in a hell of 'yddite and blanketed with flames of death.

But the very evidence of the perfection attained in the contrivance of death-dealng instruments, the tremendous defensive power found in the modern arms and the sacrifice that war involves, give birth to the hope of peace. The excessive slaughter dims the military glory and makes the people think and, perhaps, pause and weep, and there is a sob in the voice that shouts the hero's praise. There are more soldiers' graves than Victoria crosses, and the glory of killing is tempered by being killed.

island see the necessity of accommodating themselves to the new order, and of course The absent-minded beggar may call for the present-minded patriot and pride may yet be found in peace,

### Pass the Pending Game Law.

The bill new pending in Congress which provides for a new game law for the District of Columbia commands the commendation of every true sportsman in the District. and its enactment would be satisfactory to them in a most emphatic sense. The present law is in many respects obnoxious, and particularly so in its provisions governing he killing of marsh birds, such as ortolan, reed birds and march blackbirds. It not only permits the killing of these too early, but in prohibiting the shooting of them on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays narrowly escapes, even if it does not in fact accompilsh, being class legislation. This effect, it may be explained, is found in the fact that by law Labor day falls on the first Monday in September, and the very large number of mechanics, artisans and laborers who would otherwise be able to enjoy their holiday in shooting over the marshes are prevented by the -xisting law from so doing. The measure proposed and now awaiting action in Congress would remove this unjust discrimination and in many

passed without hesitancy. It will be some little time before Manila is sufficiently recognized as a great city of the United States to warrant it in claimland the privilege of entertaining a national

other ways be a much desired improvement

over the present statute. It should be

political convention.

The South Africans and the Filipinos have one small satisfaction in being comparatively sure about what the weather is going to be-

A Notable Figure. The irony of fate has asserted itself strangely enough in the case of the Presi-dent of the Transvaal republic. A man of dent of the Transvaal republic. A man of no social graces nor personal ambitions save those of the most practical character, he has asked nothing of the world save to be let alone. Yet he now figures as one of day of American independence.

A political solectsm would be the adoption of an anti-expansion platform by a national convention which will meet in the thoroughly American community of Kansas City on the Kansas City Star.

tury. The Transvaal, by its clash with scheming anew with reference to Asiatic territory. It has moved Germany to the deep concern which always besets it when the question of increased dominion for a European power is suggested, even re-motely, and it has set France a-quiver because of the prowess of French officers who are assisting the burghers; French officers who have moved poets to extravagant eulogy and who are regarded as possible military dictators. And in all this excitement of which he is the inspiring center, he makes rugged bluntness the chief characteristic of his speech and clings to simplicity of manner so closely that he smokes a pine when he reviews his soldiers. Even though the stand against modern development which he so sturdily maintains may require that he be crushed, he must be recognized by posterity as his own foemen now recognize him, as one of the most notable examples of courageous, unassum ing self-dependence that have appeared since Benjamin Franklin went to interview royalty on business and forgot to take off

A great deal of discussion has been developed as to which wears the most extrava-gantly beautiful vests, Timothy Woodruff if New York or Bath House John of Chicago. Thus do the people of the United States find opportunity to occasionally re-lax their minds from the responsibilities of self-government.

Chinamen have armed themselves and propose to fight rather than let the new German railway go through. The idea of a few Chinamen proposing to stop a railway will seem rather ludicrous to the people who have been fighting the L. & N. in Ken tucky.

The Count de Castellane has the true instinct of the comedian. He can seem perfectly serious when everybody else laughing. The only difficulty about the ount as a maker of galety is that he demands exorbitant rates of compensation.

The New York democrats persist in as uming that David B. Hill has dwindled so that he is not even a fair-sized political kopje.

The Boers are not stopping to make an formal bows in acknowledgments of British ompliments to their valor.

#### SHOOTING STARS.

Lessons in Gallantry. "What did the empress dowager threaten

o behead you for?" "For neglecting my manners," said the oung Chinese emperor. "I forgot to get up and give her the throne when she came into the room."

#### Variety.

The war and weather news again Keep people on the rack; They say a thing today and then Tomorrow take it back.

The Process of Profit. "And you are going to pay your money to ee that play which is being denounced as

mmoral? "Certainly. I think immoral plays ough to be denounced. And as a fair-minded person, I feel that I have no right to de-

nounce it until after I have seen it. An Absurdity Perceived. "I could face starvation itself for your sake," he exclaimed as he dropped to his

"You mean that you wish to marry me? aid the heiress.

"Ah, yes." "My dear count, I wish you would kindly explain how you think starvation can get ose enough to a family with as much money as ours to give you a chance to face

### A Palpable Imposition.

"There's no use of trying to disguise the fact any longer," said the man who was once a Filipino sympathizer. "Aguinaldo is an impostor."

"That's a pretty harsh word." "It's the only one that fits. First he says he is the George Washington of the Philppines and next that he is the Oom Paul. The idea of a man's assuming to be George Washington without the pig-tail or Oom Paul without the whiskers!"

### Minerva.

Though sages throng on every hand I do not fear my case to state

I know that they will understand That culture oft forgets as date

Or lets some little error silp.

The trifling flaws they lightly pass. They'll e'en assist you if you trip. In faith, not so the college lass.

She listens with a mouth set firm, And bids you all your caution nurse Her spoken comments make you squirm, Her silences are even worse.

She knows what wiser folk forget.

I shudder like a taken bass; I pay her homage, yet I fret While talking with the college lass

### For a War College.

from the New York Herald. The Secretary of War has taken preliminary measures to organize a war college The Secretary of War has taken preliminary measures to organize a war college, where the higher instruction of the army may be furthered, where the necessities of war, the probable fields and the conduct of future campaigns may be studied, and where the co-operation and co-ordination of all the supply and fighting branches may be secured. These wise intentions are based upon a recognition of existing defects and upon an understanding of modern conditions, and their realization is commended to the good will of Congress and the people. the people.

Not Enough for an Issue.

From the Florida Times-Union. Senator Hoar says there are nine demo-crats in the House who are with him on the anti-expansion issue. If this be all, would it not be well to edit carefully that plank of our platform? Hands up, gentle-

### Not an Encouraging Sight.

from the Philadelphia Press. It is not an encouraging sight to see senator of the United States declaring braggadocio language that he has done braggadocio language that he has done all he could to violate a plain provision of the Constitution, as Senator Tillman did in the Senate on Saturday. His assertion that 'in South Carolina we have done our level best to keep the 'nigger' from voting' is a di-rect flaunting in the face of the nation of the crimes committed against the suffrage in the south.

### Aguinaldo's Influence Waning.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. From the St. Louis Globs-Democrat.

The report that Aguinaldo is in Hong Kong may or may not be true, but it is certain that he might as well be there or in Africa, so far as regards any influence which he can ever have in the Philippines again. It has been noticed that the rebel chief has been keeping shady for a long time. There has been no reliable report as to his whereabouts for several weeks past unless this Hong Kong story is reliable. No tidings have been obtained of him by any of our soldiers. None of the recent Filipino prisoners have seen him. Not much of the rebellion is left in any event.

From the Chicago Journal, We observe that it is also being spelled Puerto Rico by the New Yuerk Evening

A Little Curious. From the Kansas Oity Star.

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